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Preliminary Amendment Accompanying
Substitute Specification

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please replace the previous Abstract with the following redlined Abstract:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

~~The present invention concerns an~~An apparatus for handling rotor blades of wind power installations. An apparatus for simplified handling of rotor blades is afforded by a ~~rigid~~ carrier element and at least one rotor blade receiving means fixedly connected thereto. ~~In that respect the invention is based on the realisation that, in the ease of a~~ A rotor blade is received in the apparatus ~~according to the invention, during a~~ blade fitting procedure. ~~The apparatus in particular~~may reduce the effect of the wind ~~on the one hand and the effect of mass inertia on the other hand are reduced~~during the blade fitting procedure.